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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application:

Inventor(s): Regna, Michael G.; Woodyard, Sean C.; and Mundt, Eric G.

Serial No.: 10/602,973

Examiner: M. Rachuba

Filing Date: 06/24/2003

Art Unit: 3723

Title: CLAMPING ASSEMBLY

Customer No.: 23549

Confirmation No.: 2009

June 28, 2004

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In response to the first Office Action (mailed 04/09/2004), Applicants herewith submit the following amendments and remarks in an effort to fully address the rejections raised by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Attached to this paper please find a Certificate under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b).

Kindly amend the application as follows: